



Istalya Bereslyanova, European and national ice-dancing champion

I just cannot remember when last I celebrated my favourite holiday, the 8th of March, at home. It is the same case now, that I am in Helsinki for the world championship.

The male section of our team must have already got some presents for us. True, they were in a sort of quandary this time. This is an international holiday, a fact particularly felt at the world championship. On this day, we competitors, try to be extra attentive to one another. In fact, the holiday brings us, figure skaters, from various countries far from home, closer together in a curious way. Sport means competition — but also the friendship of young people whose strength determines not just the future of the Olympic movement.

We will be presented with flowers and smiles and high spirits—which will hopefully last forever.

SUCCESS IN INDIANAPOLIS

The USSR boxing squad beat their American counterparts 4-1 in their second match in Indianapolis.

The third match is due at 10.00 on March 6.

World bathlon

spectacular for women

The first ever women's world bathlon championship will be held next year at Chamonix, France, such is the decision of a recent congress of the International Modern Pentathlon and Bathlon Union.

Twelve countries have volunteered to take part, including the USSR, the GDR, Norway, Sweden, Italy, the USA, Canada and China and will compete in the 7.5 km and 10 km races and the 3 x 5 relay.



Yugoslav Cibona from Zagreb lost to the Central Army Club, 78-95, in a European Winners Cup game in Moscow.

Photo by Andrei Golovanov

THERE'S NOTHING TO BEAT OUR WOMEN

In our time women are rapid catching up with the "stronger sex" in sport. This has been proved, yet once again, by Ana Vazar, 27, the Yugoslav mountaineer, who has been included in a 15-strong team which will try to scale the 8,000 metre Masher Peak.

It is a pity that I won't be his high on March 8, only a bit later, but such is the team's schedule, Mezar joked.

If sportswomen show great bravery in scaling peaks, they also know how to create an intimate atmosphere when playing chess, for example. It was exactly in these words that the participants of the 1982 chess Olympiad in Lucerne, Switzerland, described the three Khadija sisters—Rahimka, Yashra and Vasanat—who represented India at the event. The sisters were good natured not only towards each other but also towards their opponents, though this did not prevent them from playing a tough game. Their team placed 8th-9th.

It is hard to find a family success in the world of chess to equal that of the three Khadija sisters.

Finally, our women bring glory to towns which are not known for women's sports. Take Anterselva, in Italy, for instance, a bathlon Mecca, where many European and world championships have been held. The most distinguished sportswoman in the town, however, is cyclist Maria Canins-Bonaldi, the

CHALLENGERS LIVE UP TO EXPECTATIONS

The first three games in the match between Soviet Grandmasters Alexander Belyavsky and Garry Kasparov confirmed the nearly unanimous forecast of the numerous experts that it would be the most exciting of all the world chess challenger quarterfinals.

The first game, closely contested, was drawn, and Kasparov, who played Black, won the second. In the third game, Belyavsky profited from the experience of the startling-off game, and the game was quickly drawn. It is pretty obvious that the impulsive Kasparov is eager to attack while the outwardly composed Belyavsky (which is

clearly not so) looks more defence. The surprise was that he ostensibly denied the match have been of more so far — but this is still a 10-game encounter.

Viktor Kozlov chess commentator

Football: quarterfinal surprises

Kiev Dynamo did poorly in their European Winners Cup first quarterfinal leg, going down 3-0 to Hamburg, who lead in the West German championship and whose striker Rastrop made a hat-trick.

England, which held European Winners Cup for years running, slipped this time as defending champions as Villa lost, 2-1, at home to Italian Juventus, which has six world titles in its ten-year history.

1982 European player Paul Jones netted the game's opener.

Thriller cup winners that were outplayed by West Ham, 4-0, at London.

In Lisbon local Sporting led the winning and only 1-0 versus Spanish Real Sociedad in the last minute.

In the Cup Winners Cup, Vienna Austria drew, 0-0, with Spanish Barcelona at home. West German Bayern Munich and Scottish Aberdeen played a less draw.

In Milan Inter drew 1-1 with Madrid Real.

French St. Germain defeated visiting Waterschei 2-0.

In the UEFA Cup most of the interest centered on the Roma vs Portuguese Real game, leaders in their respective championships.

The game played a combination game, won, 2-1.

The second-leg games are on March 16.

Vladimir Melnikov

Preparation for Peace Race

Applications from 15 nations have already been received by the organizers of the 39th Peace Race, from Belgium, Bulgaria, Hungary, Holland, the GDR, Egypt, Mongolia, Portugal, Poland, Romania, the USSR, Czechoslovakia, Finland, France, and the USA, which will make its debut.

This time the race will go from Warsaw to Berlin and on to Prague. It will set out on May 8 from the Polish capital

after a prologue, a 7 km individual time trial, and finish on May 22. The Race Organizing Committee points out that preparations are in full swing in all the host countries: Poland, the GDR, and Czechoslovakia.

Our next issue will come out on March 12.



EDITORIAL BOARD

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POLITBUREAU WEEKLY MEETING

At its regular weekly meeting the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee discussed agricultural matters, and specifically the introduction of a more progressive and effective working technique known as the "collective contract". It also heard reports on preparations for spring planting.

The Politbureau reviewed the results of the recent visit made to the Soviet Union by Samora Machel, Chairman of the FRELIMO Party, President of the People's Republic of Mozambique, and emphasized the great importance of the continued development of friendship and cooperation between the two countries in the name of the peace and security of peoples and in the face of the growing aggressive stance adopted by the forces of imperialism and reaction, colonialism and neo-colonialism, racist apartheid and Zionism. Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Nikolai Tikhonov and Minister of Foreign Affairs Andrei Gromyko reported on their talks with the Polish Foreign Minister Stefan Olszowski, and reports were also heard on other Soviet foreign policy matters.

Dmitry USTINOV: 'We are strong enough to defend our own interests'

It is only the growing military threat emanating from reactionary imperialist circles that forces us to strengthen the defence potential of this country, said the USSR Minister of Defence, Marshal Dmitry Ustinov. He was speaking at a ceremony in Murmansk at which the city was awarded the Order of Great Patriotic War First Class. The award was made in recognition of the courage and steadfastness displayed by the working people of Murmansk in the struggle against the Nazi invaders during the Great Patriotic War and also in recognition of their achievements in economic and cultural construction.

If the United States and its NATO partners were to display an elementary objectivity and were they to show even the slightest desire to consider the interests of the other side and to act in keeping with the principle of equality and equal security, the success of the disarmament talks would be assured. All the necessary conditions for this are on the table.

Recently, on behalf of the socialist countries, the Soviet Union tabled new constructive proposals concerning mutual reductions of armed forces and armaments in Central Europe. This is further testimony of our goodwill. The reason why the talks at Vienna and Geneva are making no headway is the lack

(Continued on page 2)

AN AMERICAN DIPLOMAT DECLARED PERSONA NON GRATA

According to a communique issued by the USSR State Security Committee and distributed by TASS, Richard Osborn, first secretary of the US Embassy in Moscow on March 7, this year, while working with espionage

radio apparatus. Confiscated from him was a set of portable intelligence special-purpose apparatus for the transmission of espionage information via the American Marconi communications satellites, and his own notes which were written on a

pad made of paper quickly soluble in water, and which expose Osborn's espionage activities. Richard Osborn has been declared persona non grata for actions incompatible with diplomatic status, the communique states.

MOSCOW SIGHTS



A view of the horse-drawn chariot on top of the Bolshoi Theatre with the Maly Theatre and the Metropol Hotel in the background.

ANOTHER LINK-UP IN SPACE

On March 10, this country docked the Kosmos-1443 satellite with the orbital Salyut-7 station, which created an orbiting complex of Salyut-7, Kosmos-1443 in the space around the Earth.

The programme for the joint flight of the station and the satellite provides for further tests of the on-board systems, and structural elements of space stations to be launched in future and for practice in methods for controlling orbital complex of a larger size and weight. Kosmos-1443, carrying the space equipment, instruments and different cargoes needed to ensure the further operation of the Salyut-7 station and the scientific research to be carried out by cosmonaut crews, on board the station.

'Gold' debut for Leningraders



World pair champions Yelena Velova and Oleg Vasiliev going through their paces.

Yelena Velova, 20, and Oleg Vasiliev, 23, Soviet debutants at the Helsinki world figure skating championship, won the pairs with a brilliant free programme which enchanted judges and viewers alike, regaling the title for the Soviet Union. "It was fantastic! Stupendous harmony, grace and beauty! It was in this way that specialists

(Continued on page 4)

Religious leaders for nuclear freeze

The freezing of nuclear weapons will result in considerable saving for the states of all socio-political systems. It will facilitate the implementation of specific steps towards disarmament, and create the requisite conditions for a change for the better in relations between states.

Thus reads part of the final communiqué issued at a meeting between religious leaders which ended in Moscow recently.

Taking part in the sessions and discussions which were devoted to debating the economic and moral consequences of a freeze on nuclear weapons were 42 religious leaders and experts on the economic, social and moral aspects of nuclear disarmament from 19 countries.

The delegates who represented Buddhism, Islam, Judaism and Christianity also approved an appeal addressed to broad sections of the world public stressing the great importance of a freeze on nuclear armaments as a major contribution towards the improvement of the international climate.

GDR award for Patriarch Pimen

The order of the "Big Star of Friendship Among Peoples" has been awarded to Pimen, Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia, in recognition of his active participation in the movement for peace and disarmament. This was noted in a speech made by Gerald Götting, Vice-Chairman of the GDR Council of State, Chairman of the Christian Democratic Union of Germany, who presented the order to Patriarch Pimen at a ceremony in the GDR Embassy.

POLAND
REJECTS INTERFERENCE

Warsaw. The Polish Parliament's Commission on Foreign Affairs has rejected attempts by the American administration and its NATO partners to interfere into the domestic affairs of the country.

According to the PAP news agency, the meeting of the commission which examined the country's foreign policy goals, was addressed by Deputy Foreign Minister Ju. Wielez who noted that the Western powers, particularly the United States, fan up international ten-

tion, and carry out aggressive policies against the countries of the socialist community, including Poland.

Concern was expressed at the meeting over the growing revisionist sentiment in West Germany, as reflected in the speeches made by the West German Minister of the Interior Friedrich Zimmermann. Ju. Wielez stressed that Poland will consistently oppose revisionist sentiment and all attempts to disrupt political realities in Europe at the same time as continuing its support for détente.

THE DELHI FORUM

(Continued from page 1)

equal say in international credit and finance organizations.

The conference's final documents reflect the need for the

non-alignment movement to play a greater role in the campaign for peace and the prevention of nuclear war, for socio-economic progress, etc.

RACIALISM INHERENT
IN USA POLICIES

New York. The public American organization, the National Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression, has declared a nationwide campaign against political repression in the United States in defence of human rights.

The Alliance has issued an appeal in which it says that racism and political repression have become an inalienable part of the anti-popular policy pursued by the American administration.

Throughout the nation, the Ku-Klux-Klan and pro-fascist groupings inspired by Reagan's onslaught on human rights are stepping up their unbridled campaign of violence.

It is noted in the appeal that the Reagan administration con-

tinues its offensive against the workers' rights to set up labour unions, go on strike, or to indulge in collective bargaining. Attempts are being made to pass legislation which would relegate foreign workers to the status of second-class citizens. Forced to look for sources of livelihood, many such workers enter the United States illegally, living there without any papers. Such attempts represent part of the overall persecution of workers who belong to national minorities. It is said in the appeal.

The racial and political repression unleashed in the United States indicates the need for a broad and decisive counter-offensive to defend the human rights of the American people.

VIEWPOINT

Boris SMIRNOV

DELHI FORUM: PEACE
AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC
PROGRESS ARE INSEPARABLE

The current dangerous world situation brought about by the aggressive policy of the imperialist states led by America has a direct bearing on the interests of the non-aligned nations. Indira Gandhi noted at the opening of the 7th Summit Conference of the Non-Aligned Countries that "non-alignment is not neutral, it stands for national independence and freedom, for peace and avoidance of confrontation, for equality among nations and the democratization of international relations, economic and political. It wants global cooperation for development on the basis of mutual benefit". She justly concluded that "development, independence, disarmament and peace are closely related, without peace all our dreams of development turn to ashes".

Many delegates to the conference talked of the continuing deterioration in the economic outlook of the developing countries. Their general debt, which stood at 87,000 million dollars in the early 70s, topped 600,000 million last year. Annually they have to part with 100,000 mil-

lion in interest payments to the West. The trade terms laid down by their "Western partners" and the discriminatory protectionist barriers have resulted in the developing nations having accumulated another 100,000 million dollars in payment deficits. The non-aligned states are obviously disappointed that their hopes for the establishment of fair economic relations in the world after the Cancun, Ottawa and Versailles conferences were dashed by the negative attitude of the Western industrialized nations. The imperialist states, chiefly America, are working hard to perpetuate the economic backwardness of the developing nations. Washington movement to turn into a docile tool for the protection of American "global vital interests".

This was stressed with a candid bordering on cynicism, by State Secretary G. Schultz in his February 24 Atlanta address. Dwelling on American policy towards the developing nations he emphasized it aimed to create in those countries conditions for economic development, security, and freedom

which would advance the vital interests of every American citizen. To be sure, the interests of the citizens of the developing nations are missing from this imperialist scheme.

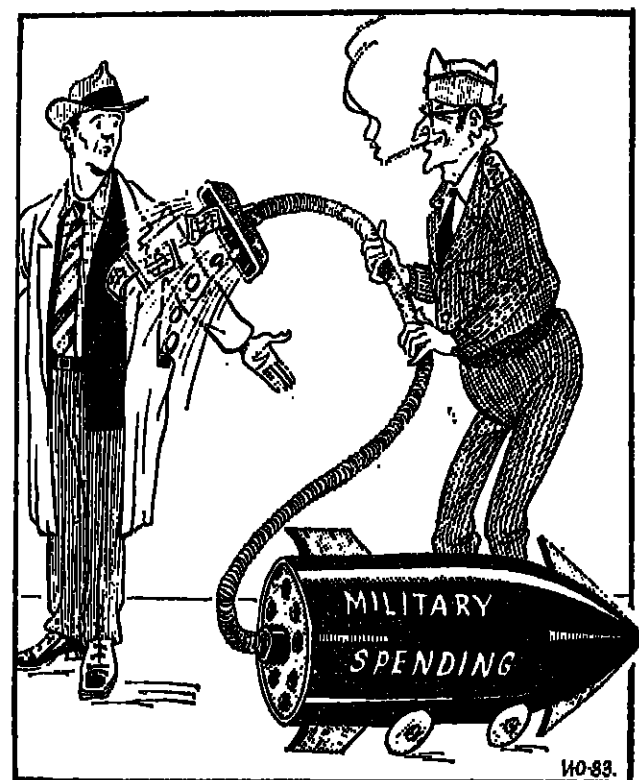
When discussing the issue of a new international economic order it is normally stressed that a fixed portion of the national product of the industrialized states be set aside for economic aid to the developing nations, and this issue came under discussion in Delhi, too. In this respect the USSR and other socialist countries think it wrong that they be bound by the demands and criteria as to material and financial aid that the developing countries make of the industrialized capitalist states.

The socialist nations are not responsible for the economic backwardness of the developing nations, which is a legacy of their colonial past. They have never exploited any countries. They are no part to the economic crisis, currency crashes and other repercussions typical of the anarchy of production in the capitalist system which have such a grave impact on the de-

veloping nations. This general non-differentiating approach obscures the continuing neo-colonialist exploitation of developing countries at the hands of the capitalist nations and of their transnational corporations and blurs the crucial feature distinguishing the foreign economic links of the socialist states, i.e., their fair and mutually profitable nature.

At the same time, the Soviet Union and other socialist countries are prepared to make a constructive contribution towards the creation of a new international economic order on a democratic and fair basis. This contribution will include operations aimed at creating favourable political conditions for reaching these goals as well as help in speeding up the development of young independent states via economic, scientific and technological cooperation with those of the latter countries who are desirous of such aid.

As regards the creation of favourable political conditions Soviet actions fully conform to Indira Gandhi's appeal that "the nuclear powers do not use nuclear weapons under any circumstances and do not resort to a threat of using nuclear weapons, do hold negotiations on disarmament with a view to reaching accord in this field". This was specifically stressed in the Soviet congratulatory message to the summit, which noted in part "in seeking the implementation of their legitimate aspirations, the non-aligned nations can always bank on the goodwill and cooperation of the Soviet Union".



Allow me to vacuum-clean you, sir.

Drawing by Yuri Ivanov

GOVERNORS
CRITICIZE
THE WHITE HOUSE

Washington. According to the US press, the Washington conference of the National Association of US governors has given the White House a vote of no-confidence.

The governors' main demand was for a sharp cutback in military spending which will amount to 1,000,000 million dollars over the next five years. They also condemned the "new federalism" programme. Washington hopes this programme will relieve it of any responsibility for solving critical domestic socio-economic problems by passing the buck to the local organs while, at the same time, drastically reducing the amount of federal aid to states.

Describing the resolutions passed at the conference as exceptionally important, the AP stresses that the governors have never been so outspoken on matters of the federal budget before or more critical of an administration's military expenditure policy.

FACTS
and EVENTS

© Papers released by the UN Human Rights Commission provide irrefutable evidence for arrests, political murders and sophisticated torture continue in Chile. Over nine months of 1980 alone more than 24 thousand people were detained in mass round-ups.

© More than a million women have signed a petition demanding an end to the dangerous plans to deploy new American medium-range nuclear missiles in Western Europe. The petition was handed in to NATO Headquarters in Brussels.

© According to official statistics, women's pay in Britain is 25 per cent lower than men's. It is 30 per cent lower in France and 20-30 per cent in Australia.

© Young people under thirty make up nearly 65 per cent of the unemployed in Greece.

Dmitry USTINOV:
'We are strong
enough to defend
our own interests'

(Continued from page 1)

of a similar will in our partners and the stubborn unwillingness on the Western side to look for mutually acceptable solutions. This is also characteristic of the widely publicized American "zero option" which, it would seem, was just put forward because we cannot and will never accept it in so far as it amounts to an option directed against the Soviet Union.

One gets the impression, Dmitry Ustinov went on, that in drawing out the talks, Washington is bent on "marking time" until the end of the year so that it can start to deploy its medium-range nuclear missiles in Western Europe. Should this happen, the Soviet Union will be up to giving a timely and effective response. Let this have any doubt on your mind. We have good reasons to defend our own interests. We will persevere in our efforts to achieve the best of solutions, to maintain the balance and to ensure the security of the world. Today, this is the only issue. And one to which the modern world badly needs a positive solution.

FACTS
and EVENTS

© According to the West German DDP agency, reporting from Buenos Aires, Nazi war criminal Walter Kutschman, alias Pedro Olmo, was seen at Miramar, Argentina. He is responsible for the death of over 2,500 Polish citizens during World War II.

© South Africa is planning to buy a military satellite system from the USA. France-Press agency reports from Johannesburg.

PEOPLE

The investigations which continue in Egypt into the illegal deals of Ismat Sadat, a brother of the former Egyptian president, have resulted in new scandalous revelations.

Egyptian judicial authorities have demanded maximum punishment for three government ministers accused of involvement in a huge corruption network headed by Ismat Sadat.

According to Reuters, the three government members concerned were supply minister Ahmad Nuh, industry minister Faud ibn Zaghlul and communications minister Soliman Nelwalli Soliman.

Mr Nuh was accused of conspiring with Ismat's eldest son to import contrabanded meat at a time when Egypt had plenty of good meat to spare.

The court said that Nuh and Ismat had attempted to import a two-million-pound (2.4-million-dollar) shipment of tomato sauce of which about a quarter had been pilfered and about one-fifth was inedible. The minister was also blamed for awarding the Ismat family a 7.5 million-pound (nine-million-dollar) contract to supply chickens, none of which ever arrived.

The court said Mr Soliman provided the Ismat family with so many telephone lines and radio links that the family communication channels were only half as extensive as those enjoyed by the entire government.

Mr Zaghlul was accused of diverting large amounts of iron and steel to Ismat family enterprises when he was chairman of the State Steel Corporation. Last month the court sentenced 58-year-old Ismat Sadat and three of his sons to a year's detention for frauds alleged to have netted 125 million Egyptian pounds (150 million US dollars). In a 161-page statement explaining its verdict the court described Ismat and his sons as "a mafia gang which sprang up... and spread corruption everywhere".

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The USA is trying to gain a firmer foothold in Lebanon. The "al-Hadad" weekly underscores the close relationship between the Israeli armed invasion and the arrival of American troops in Lebanon. Press reports indicate that at present US Marines are in control of the strategically important Beirut International Airport and of the highway leading to the south of the country.

Photo AP-TASS

AMERICA 'EXPORTS DICTATORS'

New York. Since World War II the United States has exported a whole generation of dictators from a US Army command and staff college at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, writes the "Progressive" magazine in a recent issue. This would seem to fit the "programme for democracy and public diplomacy" declared by the Reagan

administration. The US Secretary of State George Shultz admitted recently that the programme provides for "training leaders" for foreign states, which in effect, amounts to modelling military and political leaders of significance from countries which are in Washington's favour.

Science
and technologyANCIENT SITE
MIGHT BE FLOODED

Australian scientists have sharply reacted to a government decision to build a major hydroelectric station on the island of Tasmania. The river valley where the construction is planned is under special guardianship of archaeologists, who, a few years ago, discovered ruins of settlements dating back to the Stone Age there. Now this valuable archaeological site is threatened with flooding.

Twenty-four leading Australian archaeologists have appealed to the prime minister to preserve the site by moving the dam to another spot. The Australian press believes that there is practically no chance that their request will be granted.

ROMAN MINT IN BULGARIA

Workers digging the ground for the foundation of a new hotel in the Bulgarian capital of Sofia have unearthed unusual structures. The archaeologists who arrived on the site have established that in the 3rd and 4th centuries A.D. this was the site of a citadel from which a

H CLOUD BIGGER
THAN GALAXY

American scientists have discovered a huge cloud of hydrogen in intergalactic space. This cloud, which is 30 million light years from the Earth, lies in the direction of the constellation Leo.

Its mass is about a thousand million times that of the Sun, and it stretches for nearly 300,000 light years, which means it is several times the size of our galaxy.

American astronomers believe that study of this unique space cloud can throw more light on the theory of the Big Bang which some scientists believe resulted in the appearance of the Universe.

OF INTEREST

Hang-gliders
for variety

Wishing to attract as many holiday-makers as possible, the owners of resorts in the Swiss Alps spare no money or effort in their introduction of various novelties. To those who are tired of cable cars, helicopters, motor-driven sledges and other conventional vehicles, they offer a new means of conveyance - hang-gliders. The "geris" which is operated by an

Alcoholics
involuntary

On a routine examination of his cows one fine day the English farmer Albert Friday suddenly became aware of a strong smell of alcohol. The vet who was urgently called found that food fermentation had taken place in the animals' stomachs causing production of alcohol in their organisms. The farmer was so alarmed that the cows only began to produce milk after a break of three

FROM the SOVIET PRESS

LIES ENTER SECOND EDITION

Commenting on the publication by the Pentagon of the second edition of its propaganda pamphlet, "The Soviet Military Power", KRASNAYA ZVEZDA says:

Like its predecessor, this new edition of the Pentagon pamphlet contains a lot of false information. It indulges in shameless manipulation of the facts and in groundless assertions about American's alleged military backwardness.

The authors say, for example, that at the moment the US Air Force only has 241 B-52 bombers. However, an appendix to the SALT-2 Treaty signed by former President Carter, puts the number of these bombers at 574. It is also well known that since then the United States has not gone in for discarding these planes on a massive scale.

Facts are similarly distorted in the Pentagon evaluation of the number of warheads mounted on Soviet missiles.

The publication of the pamphlet shows yet again that while in Washington now there is little concern over equilibrium or equal security for the two sides, there is great anxiety over how to justify the deployment of new American mass destruction weapons, achieve military superiority over the Soviet Union.

GROUNDLESS INVENTION

TASS analyst Vladimir Savin writes: There has been speculation in the political circles of NATO countries on the theme that the victory of the CDU/CSU bloc in the parliamentary elections in the FRG will, allegedly, compel the Soviet Union to make concessions at the Geneva talks on nuclear arms limitation in Europe.

Such speculations are absolutely groundless, stresses V. Savin. The Soviet Union is prepared for a just mutually acceptable solution to the question of the reduction of medium-range nuclear armaments (taking into consideration of course the armaments of Britain and France). But the Soviet Union will not agree to disarm unilaterally on the basis of Reagan's pseudo-zero option.

The hopes that NATO can start deploying new US medium-range missiles in Western Europe and that the Geneva talks will continue as if nothing happened are also illusory. This amounts to premeditated deception of the public, an attempt to mislead people. The appearance of new American nuclear missiles in Western Europe would tear the ground from under the talks on nuclear weapons.

STAKING ON A LOSING CARD

Commenting on the White House intention to give an extra 60,000,000 dollars in aid to the reactionary regime in El Salvador, PRAYDA points out that one gets the impression that the American plans to intensify interference into the affairs of that country is but one aspect of the "overall revision" of American policy in Central America ordered by President Reagan.

Washington is waking up to the fact that its policy is leading into a dead end in Central America. But to get out of the impasse it continues to resort to the same old power politics in its reluctance to consider the will of the peoples living in the area and in its desire to interfere in their internal affairs.

USA: RESISTANCE TO 'CALIFORNIANS'

America's "Eastern establishment", which ceded power at the 1980 presidential elections, patiently waits to get its own back, stresses A. Kokoshin, in the SOVIETSKAYA ROSSIYA newspaper.

This monopoly grouping is against the current mammoth redistribution of tax revenues via the military budget in favour of Texas, California, the "deep" South and other regions in preparing its revenge, it relies chiefly on Democratic politicians. One gets the impression though that this party is far inferior organizationally to the Republicans. It has no clear leader on foreign, military and economic policy, Kokoshin points out. Still one can expect growing resistance to the domestic and foreign policy of the Reagan administration from many political quarters and from the broad mass of the public who are fed up with Reaganomics, Kokoshin points out.

MONTMARTRE TO UNDERGO
'TREATMENT'

Montmartre, Parisian famous bohemian quarter, is to undergo a "treatment course".

The houses of Montmartre stand on hills under which runs a whole network of stone quarries. Even in the mid-19th century many people lost their lives by falling down unexpected crevasses, and attempts were made to reinforce the hills. The present-day residents of Montmartre, which is a quiet bohemian quarter, have come across a plan of the layout of the crevasses compiled in 1850. To preserve the buildings from destruction it is proposed to pump, under pressure, cement solution into the old galleries and tunnels.

Round the Soviet Union

● ASSEMBLY WORK HAS BEGUN ON A BOILER AND TECHNOLOGICAL EQUIPMENT FOR THE FIRST POWER UNIT AT THE MERYUNORI HEAT AND POWER PLANT IN YAKUTIA, IN EASTERN SIBERIA. The plant will start providing power for projects in the south Yakut territorial production complex by the end of the year.

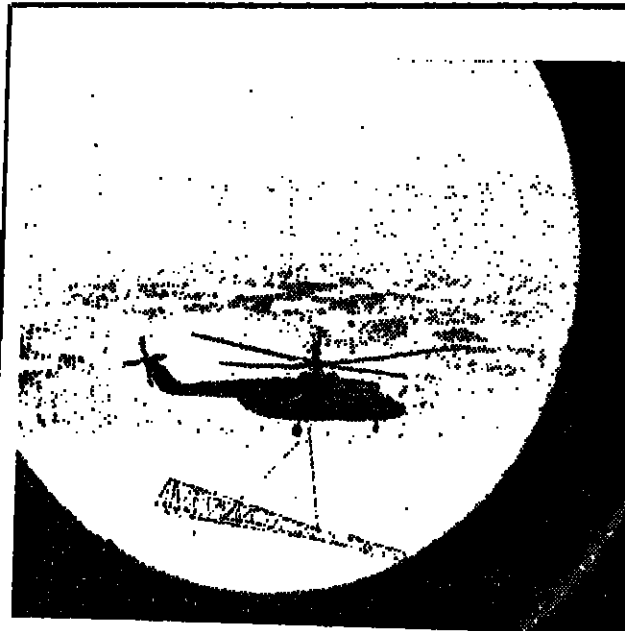
● TO DATE THE TYUMEN GAS FIELDS IN WESTERN SIBERIA HAVE YIELDED 1,000,000 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF GAS. The Medvezhye field alone produced nearly 500,000 million cu m.

● SKELETONS OF MAMMOTHS, WHICH ONCE ROAMED PRESENT-DAY NORTHERN KAZAKHSTAN IN THE ICE AGE, HAVE BEEN UNCOVERED IN A SAND QUARRY.

● KIROVIZ FORESTRY EXPERTS HAVE BEGUN LAYING OUT PISTACHIO PLANTATIONS ON THE MOUNTAINOUS TERRACES OF THE FERGHANA RANGE. It is planned to add 500 hectares to the area of pistachio forest there. There are over 130 species of different plants in the mountains of this Central Asian republic. This year there are plans to harvest up to 1,000,000 kg of pistachios, 3,000,000 kg of cherries, plums and apples as well as large amounts of barberries, etc.

● THE ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST FURNACE HAS BEGUN AT THE OSKOL ELECTRIC METAL-URGICAL COMBINE IN THE BELGOROD REGION OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION. When the first section of the electric steel shop at Oskol is completed this December the combine will produce 723,000 tonnes of non-fusible steel annually, which is widely used in the manufacture of bearings, piping and power equipment.

● "A READER OF THE HISTORY OF THE FAR EAST", THE FIRST EDITION OF ITS KIND TO HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED IN THIS COUNTRY, DEALS WITH THE FOUR-CENTURY-OLD HISTORY OF RUSSIA'S EASTERN PROVINCES. Spanning the period from 17th century to this day it tells of the life and work of the Russian pioneers Yermak, Khabarov, Semyon Dezhnev, Vladimir Afanasyev, Yurya Nering and Stepan Krasheninnikov.



A helicopter shipping pylons for the power lines which will supply electricity to the new oil and gas fields of Siberia.

SIBERIAN RICHES

Siberia has plentiful resources of oil and gas. Last year a record 500,000 million cu m of gas were extracted there. Five of the Siberian gas plants are included among the largest deposits in the country and the world.

Siberia contains trillions of cu m of gas. It is the starting point of major gas pipelines, among them the export Urengoi-Pomary-Uzhgorod pipeline, which will deliver Siberian gas to Western Europe. Already two-thirds of the 4,500 km line have been built.

It will be completed late this year and by the beginning of 1984 gas will be provided to West Germany, France, Italy and other countries.

Soviet experts believe that prospecting for oil and gas in

Siberia is still in its infancy. To illustrate, in prospecting for deposits in Eastern Siberia located beyond the Yenisei River, only 70 centimetres of prospecting wells have been drilled per each square kilometre. In the Tyumen Region in Western Siberia, which is now responsible for nearly the entire growth in nationwide oil and gas production (last year the first thousand million tonnes of oil were extracted here), there are six metres of wells per square kilometre, or twenty times less than there were in the old Soviet oil regions. The vast expanses of Siberia still hide new and possibly major discoveries.



A drilling crew at the Samator oil deposit in Western Siberia.

A LOAD HANDLING ROBOT

The Institute of Railway Transport in Leningrad is sending its newly invented robot to work on the Otkrytiyevskaya-Moscow-Leningrad Railway at stavedora. Tests have shown that the robot can outdo the best teams handling railway cars.

While a team of six to seven persons takes an entire shift to unload a car, the robot can handle it in about two hours. It can easily lift freight weighing 200 kg.

Leningrad Industrial and Railway authorities plan to introduce comprehensive automation in all arduous operations. The number of working men, laborers already reached 50, and by the end of the 1984 period there will be 7,000 of them. A parallel development is the training and retraining of experts at technical colleges in phase in the robots.

3,000 mm rolling mill under construction

The assembly of equipment has begun on the 3,000 mm rolling mill now under construction at the Zhdanov steel plant, in the Ukraine.

The new plant is designed to produce 2.5 million tonnes of frost-resistant heat-treated steel for large-diameter pipes, annually.

Kirghizian highway made avalanche-proof

The high-altitude Osh-Khorog Highway, in the foothills of the Kyrgyz-Art Pass, has now been made safe by an anti-avalanche system.

A high-altitude dam, a system of stone-traps and a millimetre gallery makes for steady traffic in this important road to Kirghizia.

The heavy mud-slides and avalanches which used to hold up traffic for hours on end on the road, are no longer a danger.

The Osh-Khorog Highway, the main road linking the valleys of Central Asia with the mountainous areas of the interior, is being modernized. Two-way traffic has been introduced, in recent years, while construction crews are now working on another two protective galleries.

Places to visit

TALLINN'S TOWER

This ancient tower, named Kiek-in-de-Köök ("look into kitchens")—in view of its height it was supposed to be possible to see into the kitchens of neighbouring houses, is one of the thirty fortified towers which used to guard with their guns the approaches to Tallinn, the capital of Estonia, from the direction of the Baltic Sea.

The tower was built in 1475 and was a fortification achievement of the time. Ammunition was kept in the lower floor, while the other five floors could accommodate as many as 30 guns. It was one of the most powerful fortresses in the Baltic with walls almost four metres thick and 40 metres high. Only once were the walls breached during combat, and a hole made through which, according to one medieval source,



"A two-hill cart could pass". This has now been filled up with six large-diameter stone cannonballs.

Chamber music and folk songs are often performed at the tower which has wonderful acoustics and which has been transformed into a branch of the city museum where Estonian artists and photographers put their works on show.

RECONSTRUCTION JOB ON SUIT OF ARMOUR

Researchers at the History Museum have done an exciting reconstruction job on a suit of armour belonging to one of Dmitry Donatko's warriors.



THE SONGS FROM THE MAGTAAL ENSEMBLE

Buryatian musical folklore features on a record released by the firm of Melodia. The music includes traditional ritual and lyrical songs performed by the Magtaal folk ensemble.

OF INTEREST

WELL ACTS AS BAROMETER

The people living in a village called Zogalka in the Lvov Region, Western Ukraine, can always check the weather forecast by observing the behaviour of their well.

Very often, the well warns them about imminent bad weather on a perfectly cloudless day, when a long growling sound comes from its depths and the water starts to seethe and grow turbid.

In such cases the old-timers say that the disturbance in the well is an indication that it will soon rain or snow.

Scientists attribute these warnings to phenomena occurring in the time rock. In good weather, the air and water are drawn into the deep shaft of the well. When the atmospheric pressure abruptly drops, the air escapes noisily, raising the sand and silt from the bottom of the well.

A group of speleologists led by the experienced veteran Samuel Khachatryan spent 76 hours in the Archart cave which lies on a plateau 1,500-1,800 m above sea level. The group, organized and equipped by the Armenian Geographical Society, made a detailed study of the republic's three largest karst caves—Archart, Mozrova and Magla including their measurements. They also compiled an inventory and photographed archaeological finds.

There they found remains of the palaeolithic period, comprising animal bones, rock paintings and the tools of early man. This was what they were looking for. According to the Armenian Geographical Society's vice-president Sogomon Belyan, the results of the expedition to the Archart, Mozrova and Magla caves are of exceptional scientific and educational value.

What's the time, Sun?

One feature of some clocks displayed at the Leningrad Exhibition is that they never functioned, though they faithfully served people for several centuries. Unlike millions of modern timepieces, the clocks told time by the Sun, Moon, and stars.

Among the items are the earliest antique specimens yet uncovered at Giza, items in the before Christ. Next to them is a part of the Egyptian solar clock of the most simple design: the vertical bar—the gnomon—which gave a shadow whose length told the time. In principle, this classical design is still not dated.

Also on display are clocks of various types and designs made in Britain, Germany, Holland, France and Italy back in the 16th-19th centuries, not infrequently by noted scientists, artists and jewellers.

Science and technology

BLAST BENEFITS

GEOLOGISTS

A mechanized layer of linear charges developed at the Geophysics Institute of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences will help accelerate and facilitate seismic prospecting.

The simple device is attached to a tractor and lays up to 24 kilometres of charge cable an hour. The explosions do no harm to the environment as only a barely visible dust remains on the surface of the ground, providing, however, complete coverage of the area being surveyed.

Ten workers were released in a seismic town of the Chuvash geophysical expedition where the layer was field-tested. The geologists' hunt of the oil and gas distribution over complex rock structures earlier inaccessible to sounding techniques.

SUPERSTRONG PAPER

Though the paper which can resist being torn at the hydrostatic Polytechnical Institute appeared to be nothing out of the ordinary and served well as a writing material when a piece of it was fixed to a clamp and a heavy weight tied to the other end, it didn't even rupture under the load.

Special tests and synthetic fibres have strengthened this unusual paper which is designed for electronic component production. The laminated plastic materials upon which electronic parts are mounted, use ordinary paper as their basis which has to be reinforced before winding this means available books production cutpages and some times loss in quality.

Experts are of the opinion that such superstrong paper could also act as a substitute for cotton, which is widely used for reinforcing plastic materials. This would result in major savings as cotton cloth costs five to six times more than the new paper.

INSTRUMENT-AIDED

ARCHAEOLOGY

Archaeologists have used the latest instruments to uncover household items dating back some 3,000 years, which are now displayed at the Erastus fort museum. They were once used by residents of an ancient town which was located on the site of present-day Yerevan.

The excavation made use of electric soundings by sensitive meters which pinpointed the location of the items that had been buried for centuries deep underground. The same electric, magnetic and electromagnetic devices were used during the dig at Zvartnots and Byurakan.

76 hours underground



VIEWPOINT

HOUSING—

A TOP PRIORITY

Oleg ZHAGAR,

Chief of the Housing Department, Board Member of the State Committee for Civil Construction and Architecture at the State Committee of the USSR for Construction, talks to our correspondent.

Q: This country is unsurpassed as far as scale and rates of housing construction are concerned. So what necessitated the recently published Resolution issued by the CPSU Central Committee on measures to implement plans for housing and social construction?

A: The scale of housing construction in the USSR represents a great social achievement. In the 1970s alone we built more housing than the total area of urban housing in existence in the early 1960s. With every five-year period, more than 50 million people are given better flats: 58.1 million in 1971-1975 and 51.1 million in 1976-1980. At present about 80 per cent of our urban population live in self-contained apartments. Nonetheless, the housing problem remains serious for the following reasons.

The Soviet state inherited a half destroyed urban housing. We had to overcome the consequences of World War I, of the Civil War, and later — of the Great Patriotic War of 1941-1945, when the Nazis completely or partially destroyed and burnt 1,717 big and small towns and over 70 thousand villages.

Huge sums of money as well as material and labour resources were spent on the restoration of housing.

At the 26th CPSU Congress it was noted that housing construction had been undertaken on a wide scale and would continue in the same vein. Over the 11th five-year plan period (1981-1985) it is planned to build 580 million square metres of housing. Since the beginning of the period more than 210 million square metres have already been commissioned. About 20 million people improved their housing conditions.

We are now building houses of an improved design and the network of schools, kindergartens, creches and in- and out-patient clinics has been extended. At the same time, the plan for housing and social construction fell short of its targets both in 1981 and in 1982.

The CPSU Central Committee Resolution concentrates on drawing up measures ensuring that the plan is fulfilled.

Our plans have the power of law, not only because they are approved by the highest state organ, the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, but also because their execution is the only means of ensuring the smooth operation of our economy taken as a whole. It is stressed in the Resolution that a considerable number of working people are in need of better housing conditions. The need to improve quality of housing construction is emphasized as well as the need for better planned housing and for more aggressive architecture not only in the case of separate buildings but also for blocks and whole residential areas.

In 1983, it is intended to commission 166.6 million square metres of housing. The measures outlined in the Resolution have one goal in view—to facilitate the fulfilment of the country's plan for housing construction in 1983 as well as for the whole 11th five-year plan period.

FROM THE SOVIET PRESS

SOCIAL POLICY IN ACTION

During the 9th and 10th five-year plan periods (1971-75, 1976-80) this country implemented the largest programme for raising the living standards of its people since the Revolution. The POLITIKESKOYE SAAIOORAZOVANIYE magazine. Almost twice as much money as in the previous decade was spent on this purpose. The minimal wages, wage rates and salaries of the medium bracket factory and office workers in all branches of the national economy were raised. In 1982 the average monthly wage of factory and office workers went up almost 1.5 times compared to the 1970 figures. Remuneration for collective farmers, notes the magazine, grew at still higher rates.

In the 70s minimal pensions were increased for factory, office workers and collective farmers, and the living conditions of the veterans of the Great Patriotic War were improved. Grants for students at university, colleges and at vocational training schools went up. The production of consumer goods increased almost twofold as compared to the previous decade. The above are just some of the basic results deriving from the implementation of the social programme, concludes the magazine.

SPACE OF HELP TO METALLURGY

Outer space is of help to geologists, seamen, fishermen, meteorologists and firemen. But can it be of help to metallurgy? All the orbital achievements in melting,

chemical and physical reactions are linked with "unearthly" conditions. Some substances, for example, which are impossible to mix on earth, are mixed quite easily in weightlessness.

Many experiments have already been carried in the Salyut and Kibitka ovens installed in the Salyut station in SOVIETSKAYA ROSSIYA. Plumb-zinc and plumb-aluminium alloys have been synthesized. If the building of space plants still belongs to the future, what about today?

It turns out that under certain conditions there is a chance of obtaining such substances on earth too. This amounts to bringing space technology back to earth.

For example, plants designed at the Institute of Physics of the Leningrad Academy of Sciences use a magnetic field, ensuring the necessary melting conditions for active treatment of the substances.

To date the ovens are small, but experiments have shown that research is being undertaken in the right direction. New alloys are sought in space while the conditions for obtaining them are imitated on earth.

It would seem, says Lelpeiter in conclusion, that we are on the verge of a revolution in earth metallurgy. We have a long time to wait, however, before space plants make their appearance.

CAN NON-INFECTIOUS EPIDEMICS BE COMBATED?

In this second half of our century, the main danger to health comes from non-infectious diseases such as

cardiac ischemia, heart attacks, high blood pressure, strokes, and cancer, writes ZDOROVYE magazine.

In order to combat these diseases successfully, it is necessary to study the common regularities in their inception.

For instance, to find out to what extent the development of these diseases is caused by factors of the external environment, specialists have employed methods from classical epidemiology, which has given rise to a new discipline in modern medicine, the epidemiology of non-infectious diseases.

The research, whose results were awarded the State Prize in 1982, began some 20 to 25 years ago. In 1954, expeditions set out for Central Asia, Transcaucasia, Siberia, and the Far East to study for the first time the regional patterns in cancer incidence. Also in these years, specialists in different regions, contrasting climate, geographical location, and other characteristics, concentrated on atherosclerosis, the cause of most diseases of the heart and blood vessels. Looking for answers to the question of whether cancer is hereditary, Moscow cancer specialists examined nearly 15,000 relatives of six hundred patients in Moscow alone.

As a result of a five-year observation of a large group of people, they clearly revealed the part played by high blood pressure in the development of the stroke. The implementation of an active programme to combat this disease inevitably leads to a considerable decrease in the incidence of strokes from 57 to 37 per cent compared with the control group.

The new approach to the study of illnesses which plague modern man, has allowed the scientists to study them more thoroughly, to predict the incidence of these diseases, to reveal the factors of risk of their combination, and to plan preventive measures.

ENTERTAINMENT

Film version of Bondarev novel

Movie directors Alexander Alov and Vladimir Naumov who made "Telenovela" are now shooting "The Shore", a film based on the novel of the same name by the Soviet writer Yuri Bondarev (Mosfilm Studios).

The dramatic story centres on the love of a Soviet Army Lieutenant, Valentin Nikitin, for a German girl Emma Herbert. They meet during the final days of the war in a small German town and then again thirty years later in Hamburg by which time the former army officer had become a well-known writer.

Our correspondent Alexander Donskoi talked to the two directors during a break in the shooting.

Why have you picked on this work? asks Alexander Alov, primarily because in Yuri Bondarev's book the personal and common human touches intertwine. The love story between Nikitin and Emma deals with human relations in the modern world, relations between nations, problems of peace and with the struggle against the threat of a new war which



Natalya Belokhvosikova as Emma and Boris Shcherbakov as Nikitin in the film "The Shore".

would destroy love and main human destinies. There is something else that tangibly influenced our choice. "The Shore" links human fate with the current of history. The human being experiences moments of high tension when he or she comes into contact with a sharp turning point in history, as, for instance, the past war which revealed all human qual-

FACTS and EVENTS

Arts. A student club named after Svyatoslav Rorich, honorary member of the Academy of Arts of the USSR, has been set up in Delhi on the initiative of young painters, architects and graphic artists.

Theatres. The Harvard Repertory Theatre has mounted a production of Chekhov's "Three Sisters".

Festivals. A nationwide Soviet music festival has ended in Tallinn, capital of Estonia. Taking part were leading groups and soloists from the Russian Federation, Armenia, Uzbekistan, Latvia, Georgia, Lithuania and Estonia who performed new works by over 150 composers from all the Union republics. Guest performances. A song and dance ensemble from Chuvashia, an autonomous republic in the Volga Region, is now on tour of Italy. Featured on its programme are a lot of national folk tunes as well as semi-forgotten melodies of the past. It selected its best numbers for the tour.

Mexican TV presents

Under an agreement with Sovexportfilm the 11th channel of Mexican TV is running the best Soviet films of various years three or four times a week. The films to be shown, of which there are over a hundred,

TWO ORIGINAL CHALIAPIN RECORDINGS FOUND

Two previously unknown graphic recordings of Russian folk songs sung by the great Russian bass Fyodor Chaliapin have recently come to light. After listening to them Bolshoi soloist Irina Arkhipova commented as follows:

I think there is no doubt this is Chaliapin singing. This is indicated above all by his characteristic style of performance, and the intonably beautiful and mellow timbre, and wide range of his voice. What particularly draws one's attraction is his stupendous ability to change timbre colouring, a characteristic of the "Chaliapin school". Evidently these are recordings of the young Chaliapin, she stressed.

The recordings have already been transferred from the brittle photographic cylinders on to tape and will now be restored. There are plans to release a disc of these priceless recordings in the supplement to a summer issue of the "Klub Khudozhestvennaya Samodeyatelnost" magazine.

Paintings and drawings by Yevsei Moiseyenko



Yevsei Moiseyenko, the famous Soviet artist, has been exhibiting his works on a regular basis at art exhibitions since 1948. At present, a one-man show by Moiseyenko is on view in Moscow on the second floor of the Central Artist Club at 14/10 Krymskaya Embankment. This exhibition, which only includes half of the artist's total output is a very large one. The 400 items on display — thematic canvases, portraits, drawings, sketches, landscapes, and still lifes — give visitors an idea of the many facets to the painter's talent. "The War Years" cycle dedicated to the Revolution, to the Civil War of the 20s and to World War II occupies a central place in the exhibition. Moiseyenko, who fought during the war, he personally experienced the horrors of Nazi concentration camps, so his pictures are very realistic.

BRAVO, MUSCOVITES

"Bravo, Muscovites", exclaimed the people of Belgrade, cheering Soviet artists.

With the last notes of a melody the audience burst into an ovation. This was how audiences of the Belgrade Popular Theatre said "thank you" to Bolshoi soloists Natalya Besmertnova and Alexander Bogatyryov who danced the leads in Adam's ballet "Ciselle". This was a wonderful soiree performed for Yugoslav ballet lovers.

This year there have already been several guest performances by Bolshoi artists in Belgrade and other Yugoslav cities. Soloists N. Troitskaya and V. Pyavko performed success-

fully in the opera "Tosca". G. Puccini, and M. Legrand. V. Anisimov danced in Bolshoi's ballet "Swan Lake" and T. Khrennikov's "Love".

The Yugoslav press praised the symphony soloists of the Belgrade Philharmonic and Moscow conductor Evgeny Svetlanov for their excellent accompaniment. Bolshoi's violin and orchestra certainly and Skryabin's third symphony were performed.

The success exceeded all expectations: the orchestra received honorary award as best concert of the year.

SOVIET MUSIC IN THE PHILIPPINES

The festival of Soviet and Philippine music, which has just ended in Manila has become an important event in the cultural life of the Philippines. Concerts were held as part of the festival at which leading music groups and musicians from Manila performed works by Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninov, Prokofiev, Shostakovich as well as modern Soviet and Philippine composers.

The local press was so enthusiastic that the festival had been the first performance of violin concerto by Tchaikovsky at Manila's Cultural Centre.

GEORGIAN TUNES IN BULGARIA

The VIA 75 pop group from Georgia, led by Robert Bardizashvili, is now touring Bulgaria with a repertoire of new works by contemporary Georgian composers.

The group which is well known in the GDR, Poland, West Germany and Czechoslovakia, is now delighting Bulgarian audiences with exceptionally moving and heart-warming melodies from Georgia. In the photo: the VIA-75 pop group with its leader Robert Bardizashvili to far right.



WHAT'S ON!

March 12-14

THEATRES
Kremlin Palace of Congresses (Kremlin). 13 (mat) — A Concert. 14 — A timely concert. Bolshoi Theatre performances: 12 — Adam, "Ciselle" (ballet). 13 (eve) — Slonimsky, "Icarus" (ballet).

FILMS
Bolshoi Theatre (Sverdlov Sq). 12 (mat) — Double-bill: Rimsky-Korsakov, "Mozart and Salieri"; Tchaikovsky, "Iolanthe" (operas); 12 (eve) — Tchaikovsky, "Eugene Onegin" (opera). 13 (mat) — Mussorgsky, "Boris Godunov" (opera); 13 (eve) — Dargomyzhsky, "The Stone Guest" (opera).

Slonimsky and Nemkovich-Danchenko Musical Theatre (17 Pushkinskaya St). 12 — Stravinsky, "Der Zigeunerbaron" (operetta). 13 (mat) — Morozov, "Doctor Doolittle" (ballet); 12 (eve) — Gladkov, "The Elder Son" (opera). 14 — Slonimsky, "Stepan Razin" (ballet).

Opera Theatre (8 Pushkinskaya St). 12 (mat) — Feltsman, "An Old Comedy" (12 (eve) — Strauss, "Die Fledermaus". 13 (mat and aft) — Camargo, "Punch and Judy". 14 — Khrennikov, "Adventures"; Khrennikov, "Children in Our Backyard" (one-act ballet). 13 (eve) — Gorkhovsky, "Quedillo". 14 — Lehar, "The Merry Widow".

Let's Get Married (feature film). About the relations between two people getting on in years. Cinema: "Plamen" (17 Voznesenskaya St). 12 (mat) — Walter Ulbricht 80. 13 (mat) — Let's Get Married (feature film).

EXHIBITIONS
Variety Theatre (20/2 Bersenevskaya Embankment). 12, 13, 14 — Songs by Lev Leashchenko.

TRANSPORT HOURS
Metro 6 a.m. to 1 a.m. Fare 3 kopeks. Trolleybuses 6 a.m. to 1 a.m. Fare 2 kopeks. Buses 6 a.m. to 1 a.m. Fare 3 kopeks. Trams 5.30 a.m. to 1.30 a.m. Fare 3 kopeks. Taxi 24-hour service twenty kopeks on the meter. To begin, plus 20 kopeks per kilometre. Ordering a cab 24-hour service. Telephone 223-00-00. Communal cabs (over 40 routes in the city) 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Fare 15 kopeks.

BUSINESS

Soviet optical instruments abroad

Foreign markets are familiar with Soviet movie projectors, exposure meters, enlargers, lenses and other optical items. This is borne out by the contracts signed every year for the delivery of Soviet optical instruments. Thus, the Turkish firm of Uranasimpor recently signed a contract for a consignment of amateur photographic instruments. This firm has been buying Soviet optical goods since 1968 on an ever increasing scale.

Soviet-made optical instruments are highly popular in

Britain. In 1982, for instance, the British firm of TOE purchased in this country reflex cameras of the Zenit type, field binoculars, and other items worth a total of two million roubles. Among the Soviet novelties on the British market are Zenit-10 cameras and Turist-3 telescopes.

Soviet optical products have been attracting new customers. Thus, a batch of optical physical instruments was purchased last year by the Japanese Mitsun firm.

SALZGITTER ON THE SOVIET MARKET

Salzgitter, West Germany, is discussing with its Soviet counterparts participation in a number of projects, our correspondent was told by Peter Busse, head of the company's representation office in Moscow. For example, we are interested in a project dealing with extraction and transportation of energy fuels from large deposits in the Soviet Union. The project of making liquid and gaseous fuels from Siberian brown coals looks quite promising. Salzgitter is prepared to offer new technology for transporting solid fuels through pipelines.

Salzgitter's activity on the Soviet market was successful in the 1981-82 fiscal year, noted Peter Busse. The cost of Soviet orders was 385 million DM, 22 per cent over the previous fiscal year. Steel and pipe contracts made up a considerable share. Late in 1982 our concern together with the West German Henschel firm signed a contract with the Soviet Union for 100 thousand tonnes of pipes for pipelines to be delivered during the first six months of 1983. Together with LGA-Gastechnik, we are designing and will supply the equipment for the processing of condensed gas to be installed in a gas-processing complex in Obrenburg. Salzgitter is taking part in building the Oskol integrated iron-and-steel works and several chemical enterprises.

Socialist countries are major Salzgitter customers. Over the past few years, their share in the concern's total volume of exports was between 15 to 30 per cent. The Soviet Union holds first place among them, noted Peter Busse. In his opinion, the situation will continue in the immediate future.

Contacts and contracts

© The Czechoslovak Motokov and Interstima firms have signed contracts with this country for the delivery of some 80 million roubles' worth of watering installations and automatic pumping stations. They will also deliver four thousand small tractors for vineyards and greenhouses, equipment for hop-harvesting posts, and large consignments of chaff cutters and hay mowers. In exchange, the USSR will sell Czechoslovak grain and silo harvesters, tractors and 42 irrigation installations of the Fregat type.

© The CMEA committee for cooperation in the field of material and technical supply has met in Kiev to consider progress in the implementation of the long-term cooperation programme of CMEA member-countries relating to the saving of fuel, energy and raw materials.

Expanded cooperation

The 8th session of the standing Intergovernmental Soviet-Algerian commission on economic, scientific and technological cooperation, which met recently in Moscow, stressed that many projects in the leading sectors of the Algerian economy essential for boosting the country's economic independence are already completed. Special attention was paid to the completion of all the main facilities of the El Hadjar steel mill, the biggest to have been built in Arab countries to date and to the all-out effort for the construction of a trans-Sahara trunk gas pipeline.

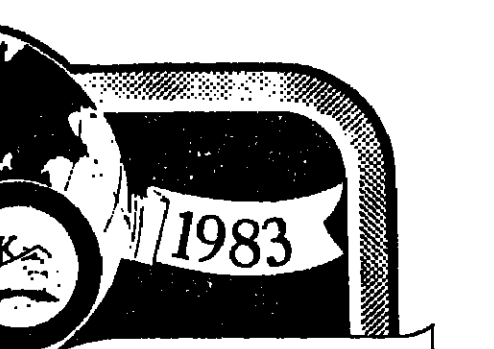
The two sides signed a protocol calling for practical measures to ensure that projects built with Soviet help were completed on time, outlining prospects for continued bilateral cooperation in railway construction, metallurgy, engineering, the construction materials industry for agriculture and the food industry, electric engineering, and automatic devices, etc., on display at the Leipzig Spring Fair between March 13-19.

All the CMEA member-countries will be taking part. The GDR and the Soviet Union are expected to put on a major display of their latest engineering products using microelectronics.

The developing countries of

Language of friendship

Over 2,500 people took part in an All-Finland Russian Composition Contest in Helsinki to mark the 60th anniversary of the USSR. The authors of the top five entries were awarded free trips to the Soviet Union. Two of them, Olli Neqohen and Sirka-Liina Linqvist came to Moscow. Before our meeting I read their compositions which were strikingly allusive towards their Soviet friends. I have quoted a snippet for three and a half years now, add Linqvist, and consider myself a happy person for it is precisely your language that has made me many real and close friends in the USSR. Russian has filled my life with joy and love, added my friend Neqohen. I marvel at the moving way in which Russian people sing their folk songs. The girls read a lot in Russian, use enthusiastic about art, and give a try at writing poetry. They are very fond of the Russian poets Pushkin, Yezhov and Lermontov and are delighted by Pushkin's.



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ORDERED FROM YUGOSLAVIA

The Yugoslav Elektronika Industrija company has started work on a Soviet contract for automatic traffic regulation systems to be installed on major

INVITATIONS FROM LEIPZIG

9,000 firms, foreign organizations and other organizations from more than 20 countries are to put their metallurgy products, heavy machinery and complete sets of industrial equipment, machine tools, machinery for agriculture and the food industry, electric engineering, and automatic devices, etc., on display at the Leipzig Spring Fair between March 13-19.

Despite the sharply accelerated attempts by the US reactionary circles to hinder the mutually beneficial cooperation in business between East and West, the fair will be attended by some number of large Western companies and small firms as in recent years.

Thai Farmers Bank

There are good prospects for trade between Thailand and the Soviet Union. It is stressed in a bulletin published by the Thai Farmers Bank, one of Thailand's largest banks which subsidizes projects in agriculture, the main branch of the country's economy, offering credits to co-operatives and farmers.

Soviet exports to Thailand, it is pointed out in the bulletin, measure up to world standards and are of good quality. The procedure for concluding deals is easy and no payment problems arise. Bilateral trade, based on long-term agreements with due account taken of the planned nature of the Soviet economy.

Intourist news

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